

In the Specification:

At pages 7-9, please replace the description of Figures 1-26 and insert therefore the following paragraphs:

Figure 1 shows results of proliferation assays using oligonucleotides (SEQ ID NOs:8-23) having 1',2'-dideoxyribose substitutions at various positions.

Figure 2 shows results of spleen weight assays using oligonucleotides (SEQ ID NOs:8-23) having 1',2'-dideoxyribose substitutions at various positions.

Figure 3 shows results of proliferation assays using difference oligonucleotides (SEQ ID NOs:1, 105-110) having 1',2'-dideoxyribose substitutions at various positions.

Figure 4 shows results of spleen weight assays using different oligonucleotides (SEQ ID NOs:1, 105-110) having 1',2'-dideoxyribose substitutions at various positions.

Figure 5 shows results of proliferation assays using oligonucleotides (SEQ ID NOs:1, 8, 24-34) having C3-linker substitutions at various positions.

Figure 6 shows results of spleen weight assays using oligonucleotides (SEQ ID NOs:1, 8, 24-34) having C3-linker substitutions at various positions.

Figure 7 shows results of proliferation assays using oligonucleotides (SEQ ID NOs:1, 8, 35-42) having Spacer 9 or Spacer 18 substitutions at various positions.

Figure 8 shows results of spleen weight assays using oligonucleotides (SEQ ID NOs:1, 8, 35-42) having Spacer 9 or Spacer 18 substitutions at various positions.

Figure 9 shows results of proliferation assays using oligonucleotides (SEQ ID NOs:1, 43-47) having amino-linker substitutions at various positions.

Figure 10 shows results of spleen weight assays using oligonucleotides (SEQ ID NOs:1, 43-47) having amino-linker substitutions at various positions.

Figure 11 shows results of proliferation assays using oligonucleotides (SEQ ID Nos:1, 8, 48-56) having 3'-deoxynucleoside substitutions at various positions.

Figure 12 shows results of spleen weight assays using oligonucleotides (SEQ ID NOs:1, 8, 48-56) having 3'-deoxynucleoside substitution at various positions.

Figure 13 shows results of proliferation assays using oligonucleotides (SEQ ID NOs:1, 57-68) having methylphosphonate substitutions at various positions.

Figure 14 shows results of spleen weight assays using oligonucleotides (SEQ ID NOs:1, 57-68) having methylphosphonate substitutions at various positions.

Figure 15 shows results of proliferation assays using oligonucleotides (SEQ ID NOs:69-72) having 2'-O-methylribonucleoside or 2'-O-methoxyethyl substitutions at various positions.

Figure 16 shows results of spleen weight assays using oligonucleotides (SEQ ID NOs:69-72) having 2'-O-methylribonucleoside or 2'-O-methoxyethyl substitutions at various positions.

Figure 17 shows results of proliferation assays using oligonucleotides (SEQ ID NOs:73-80) having 5'-3', 5'-5', or 3'-3' linkage substitutions at various positions.

Figure 18 shows results of spleen weight assays using oligonucleotides (SEQ ID NOs:1, 81-88) having  $\beta$ -L-deoxynucleotide substitutions at various positions.

Figure 19 shows results of spleen weight assays using oligonucleotides (SEQ ID NOs:1, 89-90) having 2'-O-propargyl substitutions at various positions.

Figure 20 shows results of spleen weight assays using oligonucleotides (SEQ ID NOs:8 91-95) having various substitution at various positions.

Figure 21 shows results of spleen weight assays using oligonucleotides (SEQ ID NOs:1, 96-100) having 7-deazaguanine substitution within the immunostimulatory dinucleotide.

Figure 22 shows results of proliferation assays using oligonucleotides (SEQ ID NOs:1, 101, 102) having 6-thioguanine substitution within the immunostimulatory dinucleotide.

Figure 23 shows results of spleen weight assays using oligonucleotides (SEQ ID NOs:1-5) having 5-hydroxycytosine or N4-ethylcytosine substitution within the immunostimulatory dinucleotide.

Figure 24 shows results of spleen weight assays using oligonucleotides (SEQ ID NOs:1-5) having 5-hydroxycytosine or N4-ethylcytosine substitution within the immunostimulatory dinucleotide.

Figure 25 shows results of proliferation assays using oligonucleotides (SEQ ID NOs:1, 111-112) having arabinofuranosylcytosine (aracytidine: Ara-C) substitution within the immunostimulatory dinucleotide.

Figure 26 shows results of spleen weight assays using oligonucleotides (SEQ ID NOs:1, 103-104) having 4-thiouracil substitution within the immunostimulatory dinucleotide.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 24, lines 8 through 11, with the following amended paragraph:

Following the procedures outlined in Example 1, the following oligonucleotides were synthesized:

<u>Oligo #</u> (SEQ ID NO):	Sequence (5'---> 3') and Modification <sup>a</sup>
1	d(CTATCTGACGTTCTCTGT)
2	d(CTATCTGAC <b>C</b> *GTTCTCTGT)
3	d(CTATCTGACC <b>C</b> *TTCTCTGT)
4	d(CTATCTGAC <b>C</b> *GTTCTCTGT)
5	d(CTATCTGACC <b>C</b> *TTCTCTGT)

<sup>a</sup> CpG-motif is shown in bold. **C**\* represents 5-hydroxycytosine (oligos 2 and 3) or N4-ethylcytosine (oligos 4 and 5).